

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CPR-01 PA-02 USIA-15

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DRAFTED BY EA/ANP:RLWILLIAMS(TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE

APPROVED BY EA:WHGLEESTEEN

S/S-S:RPERSIKO (7613860)

S/S - MR. ORTIZ

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R 100259Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS STATE 171384

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, US, NZ

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO FOURTH OF JULY MESSAGE TO THE
PRESIDENT FROM THE PRIME MINISTER OF NEW ZEALAND

1. THE PRESIDENT HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM
THE NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER:

"IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO CONVEY TO YOU AND THE
GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE
WARMEST GREETING AND CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE GOVERNMENT .
AND PEOPLE OF NEW ZEALAND ON THE OCCASION OF THE
BICENTENARY OF YOUR NATION'S HISTORIC DECLARATION OF
INDEPENDENCE.

"IT IS AN ADDITIONAL PLEASURE THAT NEW ZEALAND'S HEAD OF
STATE, QUEEN ELIZABETH II, WILL SHORTLY BRING TO
WASHINGTON GREETINGS NOT ONLY FROM BRITAIN BUT ALSO FROM
NEW ZEALAND AND OTHER COMMONWEALTH NATIONS. THE RECENT
VISITS TO NEW ZEALAND BY VICE-PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER AND
SECRETARY BUTZ TOGETHER WITH VISITS EXCHANGED BY GROUPS
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OF OUR LEGISLATORS HAVEADDED A DIMENSION TO OUR LONG-

STANDING FRIENDSHIP WHICH IS MUCH APPRECIATED IN THIS
BICENTENNIAL YEAR.

"THE SPIRIT OF INDEPENDENCE AND THE IDEALS OF POLITICAL
FREEDOM THAT BROUGHT THE UNITED STATES INTO BEING 200 YEARS
AGO ARE PART OF THE COMMON DEMOCRATIC HERITAGE OF OUR TWO
COUNTRIES. TODAY NEW ZEALAND AND THE UNITED STATES REMAIN
LINKED BY THE CLOSE BONDS OF OUR SHARED BACKGROUND, IN-
TERESTS AND OUTLOOK."

2. FOLLOWING RESPONSE FROM PRESIDENT FORD SHOULD BE DE-
LIVERED TO THE PRIME MINISTER:

DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:

ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, MRS. FORD AND I JOIN IN
EXPRESSING OUR APPRECIATION FOR YOUR THOUGHTFUL MESSAGE ON
THE OCCASION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR NATION'S
INDEPENDENCE.

IN OUR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE NOT
ONLY MARK THE DEEDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST, BUT
ALSO REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM, DIG-
NITY AND EQUALITY.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU TOWARD THE IMPORTANT
GOALS OUR NATIONS SHARE.

SINCERELY,
GERALD R. FORD

3. NO RELEASE INTENDED, BUT NO OBJECTION IF RECIPIENT
WISHES TO DO SO. KISSINGER

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